



NEWS RELEASE

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Nevada Advisory Committee to the U. S. Commission on Civil Rights Announces Public Meeting: Municipal Fines and Fees in Nevada

Las Vegas, NV – The Nevada Advisory Committee to the U.S. Commission on Civil Rights will convene a series of panel discussions to determine whether municipal fines and fees disparately impact federally protected communities in the state, and, if so, what steps can be taken to remedy the impact.

The meeting will take place on Wednesday, March 15, 2017, simultaneously at two locations. The primary meeting will be in Las Vegas, from 9:00 am to 5:00 pm PST, at the Nevada Department of Employment, Training and Rehabilitation, 2800 E. St. Louis Ave., Las Vegas, NV 89104. The second location will be in Reno, from 9:00 am to 5:00 pm PST, at the Nevada Department of Employment, Training and Rehabilitation, 1325 Corporate Blvd., Reno, NV 89502. Parking will be available and free of charge at both locations.

The Committee will hear testimony from government officials, law enforcement, policy experts, advocates and community members. The public will also be invited to speak during the open forum session: 4:15 pm to 5:00 pm. The Committee will accept written testimony submitted to afortes@usccr.gov by April 14, 2017. The Committee will issue its findings and recommendations in a memorandum to the Commission.

Wendell Blaylock, Chair of the Committee, stated: “In today’s political climate and glaring national divide, it is important that we stay vigilant on issues that affect our communities. The state of Nevada is unique. We intend to learn more about this topic and how it may affect members of the community. I encourage full participation from the public to let their voices be heard.”

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The U.S. Commission on Civil Rights is an independent, bipartisan agency charged with studying and advising the President and Congress on civil rights matters and issuing an annual federal civil rights enforcement report. For information about the reports and meetings of the Commission and its Advisory Committees, please visit <http://www.usccr.gov> and follow us on Twitter: <https://twitter.com/usccrgov>

AGENDA

Opening Remarks and Introductions (9:00 am – 9:15 am)

Government and Law Enforcement Panel (9:15 am – 10:30 am)

Dana Hlavac, Court Administrator, Las Vegas Municipal Court

Bill Zihlmann, Court Administrator, Henderson Municipal Court

Earl Mitchell, Constable, City of Henderson Township

Sam Diaz, Commission Officer and Government Liaison, Las Vegas Metropolitan Police Department

* Dexter Thomas, Court Administrator, Reno Justice Court

Elected Officials Panel (10:45 am – 11:45 am)

* James Hardesty, Nevada Supreme Court Justice, Nevada Supreme Court

* Dina Neal (D), Assemblywoman, District 7

Michele Fiore (R), Former Assemblywoman, District 4

* Leisa Moseley, Founder, The Action Company

Break (11:45 am – 1:15 pm)

Policy Experts Panel (1:15 pm – 2:30 pm)

*Egan Walker, Justice, Second Judicial District Court

Jessica Feierman, Associate Director, Juvenile Law Center

Dr. Nancy E. Brune, Executive Director, Kenny Guinn Center for Policy Priorities

Nicole Austin-Hillery, Director and Counsel, Brennan Center for Justice at New York University

Thomas Harvey, Executive Director, ArchCity Defenders

Advocates and Community Members Panel (2:45 pm – 4:00 pm)

Amy Rose, Legal Director, American Civil Liberties Union, Nevada

Alex Cherup, Vice President, National Association for The Advancement Of Color People, Las Vegas

Dustin Marcello, Defense Attorney, Pitaro & Fumo Law

Jeffrey Barr, Partner, Ashcraft & Barr LLP

Hannah Brown, President Emeritus, Urban Chamber of Commerce

Open Forum (4:15 pm – 5:00 pm)

Closing Remarks (5:00 pm – 5:15 pm)

* Panelists joining via video conference in Reno, Nevada